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# U.S. District Court District of Columbia (Washington, DC) CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:17-cv-02078-RBW

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT v. DEPARTMENT OF

TREASURY et al

Assigned to: Judge Reggie B. Walton Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 10/05/2017 Jury Demand: None

Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of

**Information Act** 

Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

#### **Plaintiff**

**AMERICAN OVERSIGHT** 

### represented by John E. Bies

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT 1030 15th Street, NW

Suite B255

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ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

V.

#### **Defendant**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

#### represented by Rebecca Michelle Kopplin

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF

JUSTICE Civil Division 1100 L St. NW

Washington, DC 20005 (202) 514–3953

Email: rebecca.m.kopplin@usdoj.gov

LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

#### **Defendant**

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

## represented by Rebecca Michelle Kopplin

(See above for address) *LEAD ATTORNEY* 

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

V.

## **Intervenor Defendant**

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

represented by **Thomas G. Hungar** U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Office of General Counsel 219 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-9700 Fax: (202) 226-1360 Email: thomas.hungar@mail.house.gov LEAD ATTORNEY

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**Kimberly Ann Hamm** 

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Office of General Counsel 219 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225–9700 Fax: (202) 226–1360

Email: <u>kimberly.hamm@mail.house.gov</u> ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

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Date Filed	#	Docket Text
10/05/2017	1	COMPLAINT against All Defendants (Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number 0090–5147510) filed by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT. (Attachments: # 1 Civil Cover Sheet, # 2 Summons USAO, # 3 Summons Attorney General, # 4 Summons Treasury, # 5 Summons OMB, # 6 Exhibit A, # 7 Exhibit B, # 8 Exhibit C, # 9 Exhibit D, # 10 Exhibit E, # 11 Exhibit F, # 12 Exhibit G, # 13 Exhibit H)(France, Elizabeth) (Entered: 10/05/2017)
10/05/2017	<u>2</u>	LCvR 7.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT (France, Elizabeth) (Entered: 10/05/2017)
10/06/2017		Case Assigned to Judge Reggie B. Walton. (zsb) (Entered: 10/06/2017)
10/06/2017	<u>3</u>	SUMMONS (4) Issued Electronically as to OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachment: # 1 Notice and Consent)(zsb) (Entered: 10/06/2017)
10/20/2017	4	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 10/11/2017. (Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 11/10/2017.), RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET served on 10/11/2017; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY served on 10/12/2017, RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 10/11/2017. (Attachments: # 1 Exhibit A)(France, Elizabeth) (Entered: 10/20/2017)
10/20/2017	<u>5</u>	GENERAL ORDER FOR CIVIL CASES BEFORE THE HONORABLE REGGIE B. WALTON. Signed by Judge Reggie B. Walton on October 20, 2017. (lcrbw3) (Entered: 10/20/2017)
10/27/2017	<u>6</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Sara Kaiser Creighton on behalf of AMERICAN OVERSIGHT (Creighton, Sara) (Entered: 10/27/2017)
11/13/2017	7	NOTICE of Appearance by Rebecca Michelle Kopplin on behalf of All Defendants (Kopplin, Rebecca) (Entered: 11/13/2017)
11/13/2017	<u>8</u>	ANSWER to 1 Complaint by OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY.(Kopplin, Rebecca) Modified to add link on 11/14/2017 (znmw). (Entered: 11/13/2017)

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11/14/2017		MINUTE ORDER. Because the plaintiff pursues this action under the Freedom of Information Act, the initial disclosure requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(1)(A) are not implicated and no scheduling conference need be held. See Local Civ. R. 16.3(b)(10). Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall submit to the Court on or before December 14, 2017, a joint status report, proposing a schedule for the filing of, if any, dispositive motions, oppositions thereto, and replies. Signed by Judge Reggie B. Walton on November 14, 2017. (lcrbw3) (Entered: 11/14/2017)
11/14/2017		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 12/14/2017 (hs) (Entered: 11/14/2017)
12/14/2017	9	Joint STATUS REPORT by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT. (Creighton, Sara) (Entered: 12/14/2017)
12/19/2017		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the proposed production schedules set forth in the parties' Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall appear for a status hearing on Tuesday, January 2, 2018, at 2:30 p.m. It is further ORDERED that the United States Department of the Treasury shall be prepared to address the number of other pending FOIA requests it is currently processing, the resources it has available to process those requests, and why additional resources cannot be devoted to processing the plaintiff's request. Signed by Judge Reggie B. Walton on December 19, 2017. (lcrbw3) (Entered: 12/19/2017)
12/19/2017		Set/Reset Hearings: Status Conference set for 1/2/2018 at 02:30 PM in Courtroom 16 before Judge Reggie B. Walton. (hs) (Entered: 12/19/2017)
12/29/2017	<u>10</u>	NOTICE <i>of Filing</i> by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY (Attachments: # 1 Exhibit Declaration)(Kopplin, Rebecca) (Entered: 12/29/2017)
01/02/2018	<u>11</u>	NOTICE of Filing by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT (Attachments: # 1 Declaration of Sara Creighton)(Creighton, Sara) (Entered: 01/02/2018)
01/02/2018	<u>12</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by John E. Bies on behalf of AMERICAN OVERSIGHT (Bies, John) (Entered: 01/02/2018)
01/02/2018		Minute Entry; for proceedings held before Judge Reggie B. Walton: Status Conference held on 1/2/2018. Joint oral motion for continuance; granted. Status Conference set for 2/2/2018 at 11:00 AM in Courtroom 16 before Judge Reggie B. Walton. (Court Reporter Tim Miller) (hs) (Entered: 01/02/2018)
01/03/2018	<u>13</u>	ORDER. In accordance with the attached Order, it is hereby ORDERED that, on or before February 2, 2018, the United States Department of the Treasury ("Treasury") shall de-duplicate all documents it has identified as potentially responsive to the plaintiff's Treasury Congressional Request in order to determine the total number of unique documents potentially responsive to that request. It is further ORDERED that the parties shall appear for a status conference on February 2, 2018, at 11:00 a.m. At the status conference, Treasury should be prepared to report to the Court (1) the total number of unique documents it has determined to be potentially responsive to the plaintiff's Treasury Congressional Request and (2) the pace at which it believes that it can review and process those documents. Signed by Judge Reggie B. Walton on January 3, 2018. (lcrbw3) (Entered: 01/03/2018)
02/02/2018		Minute Entry; for proceedings held before Judge Reggie B. Walton: Status Conference held on 2/2/2018. Joint oral request for continuance; granted. Status Conference set for 4/6/2018 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 16 before Judge Reggie B. Walton. (Court Reporter Cathryn Jones) (hs) (Entered: 02/02/2018)
02/02/2018	14	ORDER. In accordance with the attached Order, it is hereby ORDERED that the United States Department of the Treasury ("Treasury") shall review and process the approximately 639 documents that it has identified as potentially responsive to the plaintiff's Treasury Congressional Request. Treasury shall review and process at least 60 documents by March 5, 2018, and at least an additional 60 documents each month thereafter. Treasury shall make rolling productions of any non–exempt, responsive records identified in its review for each month. It is further ORDERED that the parties shall appear for a status conference on April 6, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. Signed by Judge Reggie B. Walton on February 2, 2018. (lcrbw3) (Entered: 02/02/2018)

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04/06/2018		Minute Entry: for proceedings held before Judge Reggie B. Walton: Status Conference held on 4/6/2018. Status Conference set for 7/5/2018 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 16 before Judge Reggie B. Walton. (Court Reporter Scott Wallace) (hs) (Entered: 04/06/2018)
04/13/2018	<u>15</u>	MOTION to Intervene by Committee on Ways and Means U.S. House of Representatives (Attachments: # 1 Declaration Carr Declaration, # 2 Exhibit Answer, # 3 Text of Proposed Order)(Hungar, Thomas) (Entered: 04/13/2018)
04/13/2018	<u>16</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Thomas G. Hungar on behalf of Committee on Ways and Means U.S. House of Representatives (Hungar, Thomas) (Entered: 04/13/2018)
04/13/2018	<u>17</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Kimberly Ann Hamm on behalf of Committee on Ways and Means U.S. House of Representatives (Hamm, Kimberly) (Entered: 04/13/2018)
04/16/2018		NOTICE OF ERROR re 15 Motion to Intervene; emailed to thomas.hungar@mail.house.gov, cc'd 11 associated attorneys — The PDF file you docketed contained errors: 1. Reminder: Parties are always added using capital letters. (ztd, ) (Entered: 04/16/2018)
06/14/2018	<u>18</u>	MOTION for Leave to File <i>Motion for Partial Summary Judgment</i> by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT (Attachments: # 1 Exhibit A, # 2 Exhibit B, # 3 Text of Proposed Order)(Creighton, Sara) (Entered: 06/14/2018)
06/22/2018		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the unopposed 15 Motion for Leave to Intervene of the Committee on Ways and Means of the U.S. House of Representatives, and for good cause shown, it is hereby ORDERED that the motion is GRANTED. It is further ORDERED that the Committee is added as a defendant–intervenor in this action. It is further ORDERED that the Committee's [15–2] Answer is deemed filed as of the date of this Order. Signed by Judge Reggie B. Walton on June 22, 2018. (lcrbw3) (Entered: 06/22/2018)
06/22/2018	<u>19</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.(ztd) (Entered: 06/26/2018)
06/28/2018	<u>20</u>	RESPONSE re 18 MOTION for Leave to File <i>Motion for Partial Summary Judgment</i> filed by OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY. (Attachments: # 1 Exhibit A, # 2 Exhibit B, # 3 Exhibit C)(Kopplin, Rebecca) (Entered: 06/28/2018)
07/03/2018	<u>21</u>	MOTION to Modify <i>Production Order</i> by COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Hungar, Thomas) (Entered: 07/03/2018)
07/03/2018	<u>22</u>	REPLY to opposition to motion re <u>18</u> MOTION for Leave to File <i>Motion for Partial Summary Judgment</i> filed by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT. (France, Elizabeth) (Entered: 07/03/2018)
07/04/2018	<u>23</u>	Memorandum in opposition to re <u>21</u> MOTION to Modify <i>Production Order</i> filed by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(France, Elizabeth) (Entered: 07/04/2018)
07/05/2018		Minute Entry; for proceedings held before Judge Reggie B. Walton: Motion Hearing held on 7/5/2018 re 18 MOTION for Leave to File <i>Motion for Partial Summary Judgment</i> filed by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT, and 21 MOTION to Modify <i>Production Order</i> filed by COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. Order reflecting rulings from the bench to issue via chambers. Status Conference set for 2/1/2019 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 16 before Judge Reggie B. Walton. (Court Reporter Cathryn Jones. (hs) (Entered: 07/05/2018)
07/05/2018	<u>24</u>	ORDER. See attached for further details. Signed by Judge Reggie B. Walton on July 5, 2018. (lcrbw3) (Entered: 07/05/2018)
07/25/2018	<u>25</u>	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS before Judge Reggie B. Walton held on July 5, 2018; Page Numbers: 1 – 26. Court Reporter/Transcriber Cathryn Jones, Telephone number 2023543246, Transcripts may be ordered by submitting the <a href="http://www.dcd.uscourts.gov/node/110">Transcript Order Form</a> /a> <p></p> For the first 90 days after this filing date, the transcript may be viewed at the courthouse at a public terminal or purchased from the court

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		reporter referenced above. After 90 days, the transcript may be accessed via PACER. Other transcript formats, (multi-page, condensed, CD or ASCII) may be purchased from the court reporter. <p>NOTICE RE REDACTION OF TRANSCRIPTS: The parties have twenty—one days to file with the court and the court reporter any request to redact personal identifiers from this transcript. If no such requests are filed, the transcript will be made available to the public via PACER without redaction after 90 days. The policy, which includes the five personal identifiers specifically covered, is located on our website at www.dcd.uscourts.gov.<p></p> Redaction Request due 8/15/2018. Redacted Transcript Deadline set for 8/25/2018. Release of Transcript Restriction set for 10/23/2018.(Jones, Cathryn) (Entered: 07/25/2018)</p>
10/03/2018	<u>26</u>	MOTION to Clarify re <u>24</u> Order on Motion for Leave to File, Order on Motion to Modify by COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Hungar, Thomas) (Entered: 10/03/2018)
10/04/2018	<u>27</u>	Memorandum in opposition to re <u>26</u> MOTION to Clarify re <u>24</u> Order on Motion for Leave to File, Order on Motion to Modify filed by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(France, Elizabeth) (Entered: 10/04/2018)
10/09/2018	<u>28</u>	REPLY to opposition to motion re <u>26</u> MOTION to Clarify re <u>24</u> Order on Motion for Leave to File, Order on Motion to Modify filed by COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. (Hungar, Thomas) (Entered: 10/09/2018)
10/09/2018	<u>29</u>	NOTICE of Change of Address by Rebecca Michelle Kopplin (Kopplin, Rebecca) (Entered: 10/09/2018)
10/10/2018	<u>30</u>	RESPONSE re <u>26</u> MOTION to Clarify re <u>24</u> Order on Motion for Leave to File, Order on Motion to Modify filed by OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY. (Kopplin, Rebecca) (Entered: 10/10/2018)
12/18/2018	<u>31</u>	ORDER. See attached for further details. Signed by Judge Reggie B. Walton on December 18, 2018. (lcrbw3) (Entered: 12/18/2018)